

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology comprising vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone growth, wherein the rat or mouse model is a rat or mouse that overexpresses regucalcin and shows said bone pathology~~ comprising in its genome a transgene comprising the rat regucalcin cDNA homozygously, wherein the transgenic rat overexpresses regucalcin, and shows a decrease in any one or more of bone density, bone strength, and bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology~~ according to claim 25, wherein the rat ~~or mouse~~ is selected and determined among rats ~~or mice~~ that overexpress regucalcin by a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component.

28. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology~~ according to claim 27, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

29. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology~~ according to claim 27, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

30. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone pathology~~ according to claim 25, wherein the characteristic of ~~bone pathology~~ a decrease in any one or more of bone density, bone strength, and bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex is stable through many generations.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) The transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone~~ pathology according to claim 25, wherein the rat ~~or mouse~~ that overexpresses regucalcin is a female rat ~~or mouse~~.

34-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for ~~bone diseases associated with vulnerability of bone tissue, bone resorption or delay in bone~~ growth, comprising administering a decrease in any one or more of bone density, bone strength, and bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex, wherein a test substance is administered to a transgenic, ~~homozygous rat or mouse model having bone~~ pathology according to claim 25, and ~~performing~~ a morphological measurement of bone and/or a biochemical measurement of bone component of said transgenic rat ~~or mouse model having bone~~ pathology are performed.

37. (Currently amended) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for ~~bone disease~~ a decrease in any one or more of bone density, bone strength, and bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex according to claim 36, wherein the morphological measurement of bone is one or more measurements of any of bone density, bone strength, bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex.

38. (Currently amended) The screening method of preventive and therapeutic agents for ~~bone disease~~ a decrease in any one or more of bone density, bone strength, and bone thickness of diaphyseal cortex or length of surrounding of cortex according to claim 36, wherein the biochemical measurement of bone component is one or more measurements of any of amount of calcium, alkaline phosphatase activity or amount of DNA in bone tissues.

39-53. (Canceled)